Application Number, 09/695,794

Docket Number: 10003591-1

REMARKS

Upon entry of this Response, claims 1-20 remain pending in the present patent application. Claims 6, 10, and 15-18 have been amended. Applicant requests allowance of the claims in view of the following remarks.

Claims 6 and 10 have been amended merely to correct for grammatical errors discovered. The substance of these claims remains the same.

Claims 15-18 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over US Patent 5,901,286 issued to Danknick in view of US Patent 6,148,346 issued to Hanson. A prima facie case of obviousness is established only when the prior art teaches or suggests all of the elements of the claims. MPEP §2143.03, In re Rijckaert, 9 F.3d 1531, 28 U.S.P.Q2d 1955, 1956 (Fed. Cir. 1993). Independent claims 15 and 17 have been amended herein to incorporate elements similar in scope with those of allowed claim 1. Claims 16 and 18 depend from claims 15 and 17, respectively. Accordingly, Applicant asserts that claims 15-18 are in condition for allowance. Therefore, Applicant requests that the rejection of claims 15-18 be withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

Applicant respectfully requests that all outstanding objections and rejections be withdrawn and that this application and all presently pending claims be allowed to issue. If the Examiner has any questions or comments regarding Applicant's response, the Examiner is encouraged to telephone Applicant's undersigned counsel.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael J. D'Aurelio

Reg. No. 40,977

D'Aurelio & Mathews, LLC 5755 Granger Road, Suite 365 Cleveland, Ohio 44131 Phone: (216) 459-8302

Fax: (216) 459-8301